

## Volume 1, Issue 8

July—September  
2009Maricopa County Animal  
Care and Control

## Trailin' Tails Newsletter

## An Abundance of Cats



One of the many cats that has passed through MCACC's doors looking for a forever home— he got one!

Summer is always a hard time if you are a cat without a home in Arizona. Last summer, MCACC's cat intake numbers almost tripled from the winter months – from 678 in January '08 to 1706 in June '08. The influx of cats creates a crisis that no shelter can handle, including Maricopa County Animal Care and Control. Our centers do not have room for the amount of cats we see in the summer months. Our foster homes are full of litters and animals that need a little extra care to survive. Many of the cats brought to us are healthy, happy animals, just needing a loving home.

If you are looking for a little love in your life, a cat (or two) may be just what you need. Come on in to one of our locations and meet our furry, purring pals. From rambunctious kittens to mellow adults, we have the cat for you! Adoption fees include spay or neuter surgery, a rabies vaccination, a 3-in-1 vaccination and a carrier.



Adopting a cat not only saves a life, it brings love and companionship into your home. And who doesn't need a little more love in their lives? Come in and adopt an adorable, cuddly cat (or two) to add to your family. In order to help solve the cat crisis, please tell your friends and family about your wonderful new furry friend and how happy the two of you are together.

If you are already a cat owner, you can help by being a responsible owner. Spay or neuter your cats. It greatly reduces the urge to fight, spray and roam. It also prevents unwanted behavior. Keep your cat indoors. It prevents the risk of disease, exposure and injuries from other animals, and keeps them safe from cars. Keep an ID tag on your cat. If your cat gets lost, it will help to ensure he gets back to you. Think about getting a microchip. Unlike tags, they can't be lost. Provide daily food, water and care to your cat. It will help guarantee a healthy, happy cat and a loving relationship. Of course, you can also add to your family by adopting another cat!

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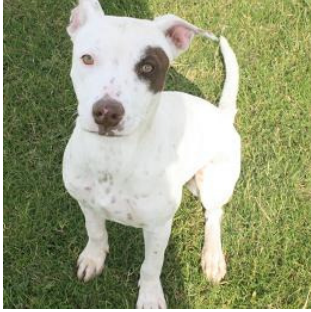
## Dogs on the Run at Iguana Mack's Roadhouse!

For the third year, Iguana Mack's Roadhouse has hosted a dog walk. Roadhouse Run is a dog-friendly, two-mile fun run/walk, followed by lunch and contests. This year, the event raised more than \$1500 for MCACC.

Alyssa Abraham, Iguana Mack's Marketing Director says, "Dogs are a big part of many people's lives. Every day we see how much our customers enjoy bringing their dogs to the patio at Iguana Mack's. We're very involved in the community and want to help people with a variety of interests, so helping the animals at the county shelter is just another way that Iguana Mack's can help improve and give back to the community. It's amazing how many of our regular customers have four legs and a tail!"



Iguana Mack's does more than the Run. They also have a Howl-o-ween Dog Costume Contest, and Holiday Photos with Santa Paws, not to mention, hosting MCACC's Mobile Pet Adoptions Bus throughout the year, helping homeless animals find homes! One more thing, doggie lunch is always available!



One of the many dogs that have come through our doors needing a new home—he got one!

## Vet's Corner: The Importance of Parasite Prevention

What is a shelter doing recommending parasite prevention? Especially one in the middle of the desert? And what parasite/s should be prevented? There are a number of reasons for preventing internal (in the body) and external (on the outside of the body). Fleas and ticks are the most familiar of the external parasites. Besides being a nuisance by causing itching, they should be prevented in both dogs and cats because they carry diseases that will not only make our pets sick, but us as well. There are several good products on the market but please make sure that you use dog products for dogs, and cat products for cats (cats are much more sensitive to some of these products and could die if exposed to the dog product). The most familiar internal parasite is heartworm. Contrary to popular belief, we do have heartworms in Maricopa County (in fact in May 09, the East side facility diagnosed a heartworm positive dog), and though we think that heartworms are a dog disease, cats and ferrets can also get heartworms. There are a few other internal parasites to think about: roundworms and hookworms. Did you know that people (especially kids) can get these parasites? Kids tend to play in the yard with the pet and do not always do a good job about keeping "dirty" items out of their mouths. Roundworms, if allowed to larvate, can even penetrate our skin. Please do not think that it is too hot or dry to allow these parasites to live here- we have diagnosed puppies at both shelter facilities with these parasites- that means they got them from somewhere. Your cat can even get these parasites. Living strictly indoors is no guarantee that you or your cat are safe from these parasites. Both cats and dogs can be exposed to these parasites very early in life. The parasites may "hide" in the muscle (encyst is the medical term) and when the pet is under stress these parasites become active, migrating to the intestines where they mature and produce eggs shed in the feces (stool). It is during clean up (the yard or the litter box) that we then become exposed. Did you ever wonder why your veterinarian recommends parasite testing your pet for any intestinal illness? Now you know.

There are products on the market that will protect against both types of parasites (internal and external) as a single monthly product. Please check with your veterinarian what product will work best for you. All parasite preventive products are really mislabeled- they do not "prevent". They kill the infestation that is present. Timing your application to prevent maturation of the parasite is the key, for most products this means once monthly retreatment.

For more information see [www.petsandparasites.org](http://www.petsandparasites.org) and [www.cdc.gov/healthypets](http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets).

### Animal First Aid Kit:

First Aid Book

Gauze Pads

Bandages

Cotton Tipped Applicators

Muzzle

Cold Pack

Antiseptic Wipes

Disposable Gloves

## Survival Story: Dachshund's Spirit Strong



Missy, a 4 year old Dachshund came to MCACC with horrible wounds in her sides. It look like she was picked up by a very large dog and chewed on or stabbed. MCACC's veterinarian team went to work right away, shaving the body and cleaning the wounds. They then put drains in and gave Missy medicine to fight infection.



Missy was an amazing patient, sweet with everyone who treated her. She healed quickly and is a wonderful dog. She has tons of energy and loves to run up and down the hall, chasing tennis balls. Missy is now in a great home, living life to its fullest!

## Employee Profile: Animal Control Officer

Assisting the police on a drug raid, reuniting people with missing loved ones, rescuing puppies from inside a drainage pipe....how many jobs provide that kind of variety? Well, they're all in a day's work for Animal Control Officer Paul Fogel.

Officer Fogel is one of the dedicated agents that work for Maricopa County Animal Care & Control (MCACC), covering the streets of Maricopa County to safeguard the well-being of two-legged and four-legged Valley residents alike. Among other duties, he responds to reports of stray animals, violations of leash laws, and bite incidents; assists city agents in responding to reports of animal abuse; and in this dire economy, picks up an inordinate number of pets abandoned by their owners. When possible, on the more minor issues, he prefers to educate citizens on laws they may not be aware of, rather than to issue a citation, which carries criminal charges. Compliance is his goal, not punishment.

Although he has always loved animals, Fogel's path to MCACC was a circuitous one. He actually earned a culinary arts degree in Florida, with plans to be a chef. But after a couple of particularly destructive hurricanes, he went to work helping to rebuild the area. During that time he was hit by a drunk driver, and the resulting shoulder injuries halted his construction career.



So he returned to Phoenix (his wife's hometown) and got a job as a kennel officer at what was then called Maricopa County Animal Control (the "Care" was added to the name in the late 1990s). After nearly a year in that position, he transferred to work in the field, and more directly with the public. Ten years later, he is still a dedicated public servant, saving animals and educating the public.

Hardly the stereotypical "dogcatcher" of lore. Indeed, one myth Officer Fogel would like to lay to rest is that MCACC euthanizes dogs (especially pit bulls) as soon as they are brought in. In fact, every animal is held for three days to allow for an owner to claim it, and if no one does, the animal is then evaluated to determine adoptability. The majority of animals do make it through the system, and find new homes.

How does Officer Fogel keep from getting burned out in such a stressful job? "It's all in how you look at things," he says. "I do not impound dogs, I rescue dogs." One particular happy ending he remembers is picking up a pit bull around Buckeye and 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Turns out the dog was microchipped, and had been missing out of Texas for quite a while. The dog's owners drove all the way to Phoenix and were reunited with their beloved pet.



One of the many dogs MCACC has taken in needing forever homes.

## Male Cat Plays Mama

There is hope for every animal. We are reminded of that every single day. Bhodi is the perfect example. A long haired male, Bhodi was in danger of being euthanized because he didn't like people and would bite. He was moved into an employee's office at the shelter in the hopes that time out of the kennel would help his unfriendly disposition.



Boy, did it ever. After a about 10 days, this 'do not get near me or I'll get you' cat with an attitude started rubbing up against legs, asking to be petted, and even let people brush him. Bhodi became the model cat.

Then, as spring turned into summer and the shelter became overrun with kittens without mothers,

the office Bhodi was in became home to four kittens. These kittens were too small to be adopted yet, so they needed a safe place to grow bigger. Everyone hoped that Bhodi would tolerate the kittens. At worst, it was that he would just keep his distance.

At first, Bhodi just ignored them. We were satisfied with that. Then he let them climb on him. We were happy about that. Soon they were sleeping on him. We couldn't believe it. And finally, he was grooming them like a Mama cat and even letting them gain comfort by suckling. We were certainly surprised by that.

Bhodi has never seemed more content then he does now. One never knows what an animal may become with the opportunity!

## Spay and neuter your pets

*Get your dogs and cats spayed or neutered! MCACC gets in over 55,000 animals a year, many of them unwanted kittens and puppies. These innocent animals have little chance of survival in our shelters—they need too much care. Please help us stop unnecessary euthanasia—spay and neuter your pets! MCACC's the Big Fix Spay/Neuter Voucher Program offers a free spay or neuter surgery for your cat or dog. Please visit us on the web at [www.pets.maricopa.gov](http://www.pets.maricopa.gov) for more information.*



**MCACC took in over 55,000 dogs and cats last year. Please give one a good home!**

## Maricopa County is Going Green

Maricopa County recently launched a new website detailing an array of its "green" projects and what county residents can do to live in a more sustainable fashion.

"The new web site has something for everyone," said Jonce Walker, Maricopa County's Sustainability Manager. In addition to Maricopa County's green initiative plan and goals, the site contains highlights of the county's progress on green projects including a biodiesel fleet, an energy audit and construction of a new west-side recreational facility that is completely off the power grid. The web site has a section dedicated to educating kids about environmental issues and helpful hints for residents who are looking for simple ways to go "green."

"MyGreenGovernment.com is a great resource for a number of reasons," said Don Stapley, County Supervisor. "It details the commitment made by Maricopa county to move its service delivery in a sustainable direction."

Stapley, who is current president of the National Association of Counties, has promoted



sustainability in government operations, both locally and nationally, for the last several years. Stapley notes the County has an obligation to be environmentally sensitive, and he is quick to point out that "greening" county business is about efficiencies of all types. "They stretch taxpayer dollars at a time where it couldn't be more important."

In 2008, Maricopa County implemented a green initiative, covering a wide swath of county departments. The plan included measurable actions that help improve the region's air quality, improve water quality and quantity, and make better decisions leading to efficient, economical and environmentally sensitive land use and development patterns.

In 2008, Maricopa County hired a sustainability manager to oversee the development and progress of each department. The County incorporates green initiatives into performance measures so that the progress may be measured both financially and environmentally.

### Rabies Clinic

**Specials: \$20**

### West and East Shelters

Sunday - 11—5:30 p.m.

Tues—Thurs 9—11 a.m.

## MCACC Working with Salt River Police Department

Maricopa County Animal Care and Control (MCACC) was invited to the Salt River Reservation by the Salt River Police Department to conduct a sweep in four communities. A sweep is when the Animal Control Officers go to a community with their trucks looking to pick up all loose dogs. The Salt River PD had been receiving a great deal of complaints regarding stray dogs, causing some public safety issues in these communities.

Working together, MCACC Field Officers patrolled the area, getting dogs with leashes, snares, dart guns, and even just picking them up. At the end of the shift, they impounded 24 problem dogs.



## License Your Dog—It's the Law!

If you own a dog in Maricopa County, there is a law regarding rabies vaccinations and dog licenses. All dogs over the age of three months must have an updated rabies vaccination and Maricopa County dog license. A.R.S. 11-1008 & 11-1010\*

### Rabies Vaccination:

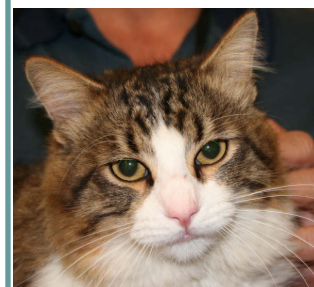
- Available at any veterinarian office or MCACC location. Prices may vary.
- The first vaccination is good for one year. After that, they are usually good for three years.

### Dog License:

- Dog licenses are \$16 for sterilized dogs and \$40 for unsterilized dogs.
- You have 15 days to do so from the date of the vaccination or 30 days if you are new to the county or a new dog owner.
- You can get a license by coming into one of our centers, mailing in an application, or filing out the application online. Visit [www.maricopa.gov/Pets/License](http://www.maricopa.gov/Pets/License) to download an application or to do the online application.



If you'd like to receive this newsletter electronically, please visit us at : [www.pets.maricopa.gov](http://www.pets.maricopa.gov)



MCACC took in over 12,000 cats last year. Please give one a good home!

## Become a Volunteer

Believe it or not, MCACC still needs more dedicated volunteers. Help is needed to assist with adoptions and socializing animals. This is a rewarding and dynamic volunteer experience waiting for you. Whether you are interested in walking dogs, petting kittens, or assisting with adoptions (at the shelter or off-site), there is a way you can help! MCACC volunteers have the ability to make a difference in the lives and outcomes of our shelter pets. Become an integral part of the transition from shelter pet to forever homes. Contact our Volunteer Coordinator at (602) 506-8133 or by email: [sspinelle@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:sspinelle@mail.maricopa.gov)



**GoodSearch**  
powered by YAHOO! SEARCH

Search the web with [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and money from Yahoo advertisers will go to FACC's – Friends of Animal Care & Control without you spending a dime!



One of the lucky cats to find a new home through MCACC this year.

## Do Your Part to Protect Animals

Unfortunately, not everyone is an animal lover, and some people treat animals badly, either deliberately or because of a lack of knowledge of how to properly care for a pet. But there are ways you can help animals in these tragic situations.

It is illegal to beat, torment, hurt or harm any animal in any manner. People who beat their animals or otherwise cause an animal to suffer pain or discomfort can be charged with a crime. If you see such a crime being committed, please call your local police department immediately.

The law also requires that pets be kept in a clean and healthful environment, free from accumulated feces. Chaining a pet is also dangerous and cruel. A dog that is chained or tied is at the mercy of the elements, and if he becomes entangled in it, he may be unable to reach water, food, or shelter. These situations should be reported local authorities.

The temperature inside a car or the back of a pick-up can reach 130 to 160 degrees in just a few minutes, even on a pleasant day. If you see a pet in a hot car, report it to the police immediately by calling 911.

It is not only cruel to deliberately abandon an animal, it is also illegal. Domestic animals cannot fend for themselves, and frequently fall victim to cars, the desert elements, or native predators. Before you abandon your pet, try to find him a new home or look around for assistance. There are some local groups that are trying to help. If you do find that you can no longer care for your dog or cat, please bring him to one of our shelters.

2500 S. 27th Avenue

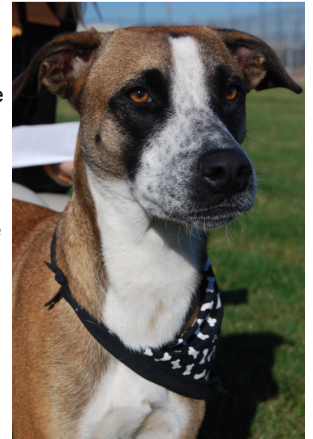
Phoenix, AZ

(27th Avenue, South of Durango)

2630 W. 8th Street.

Mesa, AZ

(8th Street, East of the 101)



Help us control the pet overpopulation problem. Get your pet spayed or neutered!



Call or email us and we'll bring the Mobile Pet Adoptions Bus to your business or neighborhood!

602-249-6504  
llong@ mail.maricopa.gov

*Be sure to check out our web site every month to see what else is happening and where our Mobile Pet Adoptions Bus will be.*

<http://www.maricopa.gov/Pets/News/Calendar.aspx>

## Ways to Help the Animals

While MCACC was originally founded for the purpose of catching and killing stray animals to prevent the spread of rabies and other diseases, the population growth in Maricopa County has resulted in an ever increasing number of healthy and treatable dogs and cats looking to MCACC to find them homes. As a "special revenue fund" within Maricopa County, MCACC is responsible for generating funds for both its mandated and non-mandated services. However, as a County department, MCACC is unable to solicit donations.

By becoming a donor of your dollars, your time, or by holding a donation drive, you can help ensure that MCACC can provide the care and services that will ultimately make it possible for MCACC to reach its goal of eliminating the euthanasia of healthy and treatable pets by 2012.

Please send me information about the following

◇ How to Volunteer

◇ How to Donate

◇ Information on: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to receive your email newsletter!

Mail to: MCACC Community Relations

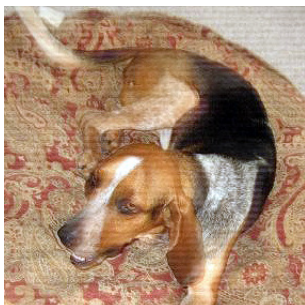
2500 S. 27th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85009

## Don't Overlook Older Pets

Many people come to the shelter wanting to adopt puppies and kittens. Animals they can create a special bond with, who will love them unconditionally. What many people don't realize is that they can receive that from any aged animals, even (especially) older ones. MCACC recently received the following letter in June:

On the weekend before Easter this year, I adopted a 7 year old walker hound from your East Valley location. My adopted dog was listed as a stray and was about 15lbs pounds under weight. She looked very sick in the kennel, and unattractive to any potential family looking to adopt a dog. I don't know why, but I stopped at her kennel, and knelt down to check her out. I was initially looking for a small to medium size dog about 1 – 2 years old. She was a bigger then we wanted and definitely older. However, I instantly loved her. She had sweet eyes and tried very hard to look lively as she got up and walked over to the gate. She wagged her tail and licked my fingers ever so adoringly. I asked someone to take her out so I could spend some time with her. After spending about 15 minutes together, I could see she was very loving. I walked around and checked out other dogs, but kept ending up right back at her kennel where she was waiting so patiently.

After convincing my husband, she came home. The first few days, she slept all day and night and had very little energy. Nervous she may be to thin to recover, I began to think that she would not last long. We encouraged her to eat, gave her love and made her as comfortable as we could. Our other dog Charlie, a 4yr old pointer-X, encouraged her by sharing his bed and giving her continual kisses. She was unfamiliar with stairs, dog beds, and dog treats. The first few nights we



carried her up the stairs every night and down every morning.

Our vet gave her a physical, ran a few different tests to ensure her weight was not do to a more serious issue, and gave her a clean bill of health! And as an added bonus, she was pronounced to be around 5yrs old. Dr. Chen told me he would like to see her weigh about 45lbs. We were to limit her exercise and fed her 4 times a day. He told us we should see a change in her soon. I was overwhelmed with

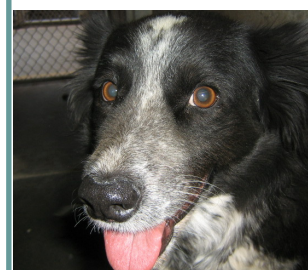
excitement for this sweet little girl.

We have now had Cabela for 2 months. She has gained about 8lbs, and with every pound becomes more lively and energetic. She has begun rough housing with Charlie, learned to use the stairs, and can sit on command. She has transformed from the sickly, old dog we saw at the shelter to a lively, fun-spirited, healthy, sweet girl. She is a completely different dog. Cabela was the missing part of our family. I am thankful every day that we adopted her.

The purpose of sharing my story is to thank Maricopa County Animal Shelter for helping me adopt Cabela, and also to share with other people who may be looking for a pet, that looks are deceiving. Please don't disregard the older dogs in fear of a shorter life span or health issues. Shelters can be a very scary place for animals. Just like in my story, there are many older dogs that may look hopeless that aren't. They may look sick or too old, and then turn out not to be. To everyone who may read this, please give the older dogs a second look too, they are no different then a puppy, they all love the same.

### Tune in and catch our animals on TV and the radio!

- Every Saturday on Channel 12 at 8:40 a.m.
- Every 1st and 3rd Monday on Sonoran Living in Channel 15
- Every other Thursday on Channel 12 at 1:35 p.m.
- Every Friday at 7:15 a.m. on KDKB
- Every last Tuesday of the month on KOOL radio 94.5 FM



Save a life and become forever loved— come find your new furry friend at one of our shelters.



Visit one our Animal Care Centers!

West Valley Care Center  
2500 S. 27th Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85009

East Valley Care Center  
2630 W. 8th St.  
Mesa, AZ 85201

Phone: 602-506-PETS (7387)

E-mail: [ahollis@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:ahollis@mail.maricopa.gov)

We're on the web!

[www.pets.maricopa.gov](http://www.pets.maricopa.gov)

MCACC's new approach to delivering animal care and control services reflects the delicate balance that exists between animal welfare and animal control. We strive to be proactive and offer programs to prevent problems before they occur. It is our vision to reduce the dangers and nuisances caused by irresponsible pet ownership and to protect pets from abuse, neglect and homelessness.

Our mission is to promote and protect the health, safety and welfare of people and pets in Maricopa County.

MCACC offers a multitude of services to assist you and your pets.

- Adoption of cats and dogs
- Spay/Neuter programs
- Licensing
- Rabies vaccinations
- Lost and found shelter care
- Stray dog pick up
- Opportunities to volunteer and become foster care givers



## Friends of Animal Care and Control

Our mission is to end euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats in our community by raising funds to support the special programs of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.

P.O. Box 80739  
Phoenix, AZ 85060

602-626-5073

Visit us at: [www.azfaccs.org](http://www.azfaccs.org)

## Friends of Animal Care and Control Thrift Store



The FACCs thrift shop sells a wide variety of gently used items. Proceeds from the sales fund MCACC's valuable programs.

**FACCs Thrift Shop**  
12625 N. Cave Creek Road (North of Thunderbird)  
Phoenix, AZ 85022  
602-923-6914  
Store hours: Monday-Saturday 10am-4pm  
Sunday 11 am - 4 pm

Do you love animals? Do you have some items that you'd like to donate to charity? Please donate them to the FACCs thrift shop! The store is currently accepting the following gently used items:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| - Clothing, purses, jewelry and shoes                             | - Household items (lamps, linens, bedspreads) |
| - Dishes, glassware, utensils                                     | - Kitchen and office appliances               |
| - Furniture - indoor and outdoor                                  | - Computers, printers, software               |
| - Children's clothing and toys (no furniture or car seats please) | - Artwork                                     |
| - Books   | - Cell phones, PDA's                          |
| - Tools   |   |

For a large item (or large amount), call us to arrange a free pick up at (602) 997-7399.

**FACC's mission is to end euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats in our community by raising funds to support the programs of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.**

